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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, ELAB

SUBJECT: LABOR ATTACHE CONFERENCE, MAY 3-8, 1976

REFERENCE: TUNIS (A) 0795, (B) 1661, (C) 2088

1. STATE AND LABOR APPRECIATE EMBASSY INVESTIGATIONS RE USE OF DINARS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL. INQUIRY ALITALIA WASHINGTON OFFICE CONFIRMED AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE ALL CONFERENCE TRANSPORTATION THROUGH PRE-PAYMENT BY ALITALIA/TUNIS WITH MAXIMUM USE OF U.S. FLAG CARRIERS. WASHINGTON ALITALIA SALES MANAGER, AFTER COMMUNICATION WITH ALITALIA/TUNIS, ADVISES HIS TUNIS COUNTERPART DR. AMBROSELLI MAY VISIT WASHINGTON WEEK OF APRIL 5 TO OFFER ASSISTANCE. UNLESS TWA POLICY CHANGE ON ACCEPTABILITY TUNISIAN DINARS FOR TRAVEL ORIGINATING OUTSIDE TUNISIA OCCURS, LABOR AND STATE REQUEST EMBASSY REACTION TO ADMINISTRATIVE SCENARIO FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS.

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2. ON RECEIPT DINAR RESERVATION CERTIFICATES FROM TREASURY,

LABOR WILL AUTHORIZE OBLIGATIONS AND EXPENDITURES BY EMBASSY/TUNIS FOR

CONFERENCE COSTS AGAINST LABOR EXCESS FOREIGN CURRENCY
APPROPRIATION.

3. TRANSPORTATION - FIELD POSTS. PARTICIPANTS ALL FIELD
POSTS, EUR AND AF, WILL BOOK MOST DIRECT ROUND TRIP TRANSPOR-
TATION THROUGH LOCAL ALITALIA OFFICE UTILIZING U.S. CARRIERS
WHEREVER POSSIBLE REQUESTING PRE-PAYMENT BE SECURED FROM
ALITALIA/TUNIS. IF ALITALIA NOT REPRESENTED LOCALLY,
ORIGINATING CARRIER SHOULD BE REQUESTED TO SECURE PRE-PAY-
MENT FROM ALITALIA/TUNIS. PARTICIPANTS WILL BE REQUESTED
TO ADVISE TUNIS, INFORMATION WASHINGTON, OF ITINERARY.
BLANKET TRAVEL AUTHORIZATIONS FOR AF AND EUR POSTS WILL BE
COMPLETED AT TUNIS BY LABOR ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM. ON FINALI-
ZATION ALL FIELD TRANSPORTATION, ONE GTR IN FAVOR ALITALIA/
TUNIS CAN BE ISSUED. DINAR AVAILABILITY WILL NOT, REPEAT NOT,
PERMIT EXCESS BAGGAGE AUTHORIZATION.

4. TRANSPORTATION - WASHINGTON PARTICIPANTS. WASHINGTON
TRAVELERS WILL BOOK MOST DIRECT ROUND TRIP TRANSPORTATION
USING U.S. CARRIERS WHEREVER POSSIBLE THROUGH ALITALIA
WASHINGTON OFFICE WHICH WILL REQUEST ALITALIA/TUNIS TO
AUTHORIZE PRE-PAYMENT. WASHINGTON WILL ADVISE EMBASSY/
TUNIS OF ITINERARIES. GTR'S PAYABLE IN TUNISIAN DINARS
IN FAVOR OF ALITALIA/TUNIS CAN BE ISSUED BY EMBASSY. TRAVEL
AUTHORIZATIONS TO BE COMPLETED BY LABOR IN WASHINGTON.
EXCESS BAGGAGE WILL BE AUTHORIZED ONLY FOR WASHINGTON
PARTICIPANTS REQUIRED TO TRANSPORT CONFERENCE MATERIALS.

5. REFTEL (C), PARA. 3, PROPOSAL TO USE APPROPRIATED
DOLLARS FOR OFFICIAL TRAVEL TO TUNIS IN COMBINATION DINARS
FOR RETURN NOT FEASIBLE FOR LABOR/STATE.

6. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION, HIRES AND OVERTIME. FOR EMBASSY
POOL SUPPLEMENTATION LABOR AUTHORIZATION CAN INCLUDE AUTOMOBILE
AND CHAUFFEUR HIRE FOR VIP'S AND CONVERENCE COORDINATOR.
IF ESSENTIAL, LOCAL HIRES AND LOCAL STAFF OVERTIME CAN BE
AUTHORIZED.

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7. REFTEL (C) - STATE UNDERSTANDS ALITALIA/TUNIS HOPE FOR
CONCENTRATION THROUGH ALITALIA OF ALL U.S. GOVERNMENT
OFFICIAL TRAVEL PAYABLE IN DINARS. NO DECISION POSSIBLE
PENDING OUTCOME OF CURRENT DISCUSSIONS AMONG STATE AND
U.S. CARRIERS AND WITH GAO. SITUATION WILL BE SUBJECT
SEPTEL.

8. EMBASSY REACTION REQUESTED TO FOREGOING, SPECIFICALLY

ARRANGEMENTS WITH ALITALIA. CAN EMBASSY CONFIRM ALITALIA/
TUNIS AGREEMENT IN WRITING TO PROMPT TELEGRAPHIC PREPAYMENT
ALL REQUESTS FROM POSTS SERVICED BY ALITALIA AS WELL AS THOSE
SERVICED ONLY BY OTHER CARRIERS, FOR TRAVEL IN CONNECTION
THIS CONFERENCE? EMBASSY REACTION ALSO REQUESTED TO ADE-
QUACY PROPOSED STAFF SUPPORT AND DESIRABLE ARRIVAL DATE OF
SUPPORT STAFF. KISSINGER

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